

## Turkish minister begins visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Turkey's Minister of State for Economic, Trade and Planning Attaullah Yousaf Ozal arrived here Friday for a two-day visit to Jordan during which he is expected to be received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Ozal will also hold talks with senior officials on Jordan-Turkey's cooperation and coordination in economic fields. Ozal told Petra that the visit was arranged with Prince Hassan during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January to boost bilateral relations. He said, Turkey was looking forward to increasing purchases of Jordanian products and increase trade exchange. The Turkish minister added that the visit with Jordanian officials would also cover cooperation in the field of electricity among Jordan, Turkey, Syria and Egypt. Ozal added he would also project for cooperation among Turkey, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the Arab Gulf to supply these countries with energy from Turkey.

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## Rifai leaves for Moscow

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai flew to Moscow Friday for talks with Soviet officials on the new American-Middle East peace plan. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Rifai would "brief the Soviets on His Majesty King Hussein's talks with Arab leaders on the U.S. initiative." The U.S. plan was proposed by Secretary of State George Shultz to leaders of Israel, Jordan, Syria and Egypt earlier this month. Last week, King Hussein travelled to Iraq, Kuwait, Syria and Egypt to discuss the American plan. The King returned home Friday after a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia and North Yemen for similar talks (see story below). An Arab League delegation led by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim arrived in Moscow Thursday for talks on the Middle East conflict, the official TASS news agency said. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the delegation would meet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze. The delegation includes Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa, Tunisian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Taieb Sabhani and the head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee, Farouk Kaddoumi.

## Mubarak, Arafat hold talks

CAIRO (R) — Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Friday discussed the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted Arafat as saying after the meeting that he briefed Mubarak in detail on the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories. "Our talks also dealt with the serious escalation by the Israeli army against the inhabitants in the occupied lands," Arafat was quoted as saying.

## Israel bars Natshe from peace seminar

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli authorities barred a leading West Bank Palestinian from attending a seminar on Middle East peace in Brussels Friday. Deposed Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe told Reuters that military authorities refused him a travel permit to attend the seminar which will include leading Israeli and Palestinian political figures. "Two weeks ago I asked for a travel permit and was told I wasn't allowed to go," he said. The three-day symposium, chaired by European Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson and entitled "Give Peace a Chance," was organized by a group of Belgian Jews and began Friday.

## Ibn Ali pardons 2,044 prisoners

TUNIS (AP) — President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali has granted pardons or reduced the sentences of 2,044 prisoners in commemoration of National Independence Day, official sources said Friday. Those benefiting from the presidential decree included political "prisoners" and others serving time for common crimes, said the source. Tunisia celebrates its 32nd anniversary of independence from France Sunday.

## Gorbachev returns to Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev returned to Moscow Friday from a five-day trip to Yugoslavia in which he got a first-hand look at that country's system of socialist self-management. A joint declaration released just before Gorbachev left proclaimed that Eastern European countries were free to follow "any path to socialism" without Soviet interference. It was the first time that view, which Gorbachev has stated in several speeches, has been outlined in a formal, written statement of policy.

## Andreotti: U.S. plan must not fail

ROME (R) — The new United States-Middle East peace plan must not be allowed to fail despite controversy about its contents, outgoing Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti said Friday. Andreotti briefed the Italian cabinet on the plan after U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy met him in Rome last weekend to discuss the initiative. "Andreotti reaffirmed the belief that, despite continuing controversy over some points, the failure of this new initiative must be avoided," a cabinet statement said. It said Andreotti believed negotiations had to be encouraged "in order to put a stop to situations of deadlock which risk fermenting further violence."

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## Israeli troops kill 1 more Arab, wound 21 as uprising marks 100 days

OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian and wounded at least 21 in violence after Friday prayers in the Gaza Strip amid a widening clampdown on the 100th day of a Palestinian uprising, U.N. officials said.

They said Hani Ibrahim Abu Hamam, 23, was shot dead during clashes in the Shati refugee camp. Twenty-one people were injured by gunfire and treated at two Gaza hospitals, the hospital registers showed.

Two senior cabinet ministers said the army should take tougher measures against Palestinian protesters.

Israeli forces detained two Israelis found in possession of an arsenal of weapons and suspected of planning anti-Arab attacks, the daily Haaretz reported.

Mohammad Abu Shaban, the vice president of the Gaza bar association, was detained late Thursday and Israeli officials alleged he was involved in "subversive" activities.

Abu Shaban, who was represented several Gazans in appeals to the Israeli supreme court, was

detained after returning from a Tel Aviv protest gathering.

Protests broke out Friday in a dozen towns and refugee camps after noon prayers, according to the Palestine Press Service (PPS) and other Arab reports.

Demonstrations were reported in areas north of Jerusalem, including Ramallah and Tulkarm, and in half a dozen towns and refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, including Gaza City, the PPS said.

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## Iraq says 800 Iranians killed, hits ships and continues missile strikes

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Friday its troops killed 800 Iranian soldiers in an overnight battle on the central war front, while its jets hit two ships in the Gulf and a salvo of missiles was hurled at Tehran.

A military spokesman said Iraqi infantry, armour and artillery units repelled an Iranian ground attack against Iraqi forward positions on the central front.

"Our forces killed 800 Iranian

soldiers ... the only survivors were those very few who managed to flee," he said.

Iran reported heavy fighting in the Sumar border area northeast of Baghdad and claimed advances.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah and Minister of State for Military Affairs General Abdul Jabbar Shanshal met unit commanders in the

north sector of the war front.

There was no report of fighting in the north, where Iran said it was continuing a drive in the mountainous Kurdish area of Iraq.

INA quoted Khairalla as saying: "Iran's insistence on its irresponsible attitudes will force Iraq to take stronger and more severe measures, and at the same time we will keep our hands open for peace."

In the tanker war, dormant for about a month, a military spokesman said Iraqi planes hit two large ships in the Gulf.

Lloyd's shipping intelligence said the 80,137-tonne Cypriot flag tanker Kyrenios was set on fire in an Iraqi attack.

There was no confirmation of the other reported Iraqi raid as the so-called "tanker war," an offshoot of the Gulf conflict, flared against a comparative month-long lull.

Iranian gunboats attacked three neutral ships in the southern Gulf Friday in apparent retaliation for the raid on the Kyprenios and two other confirmed Iraqi attacks in recent days.

Shipping officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a Japanese seaman was killed aboard the Panamanian liquefied gas carrier Maria 2 in the first raid on midnight last Friday.

The rest of the 20-man crew, all South Koreans, abandoned the ship when it was set on fire. Several were wounded, but all were rescued by United Arab Emirates coast guard vessels.

Gumboats later attacked the 284,494-ton Norwegian tanker Berge Lord, starting a small fire, and the 87,768-ton Singapore-flag tanker Neptune Sabru. But no casualties were reported.

Among major issues to be discussed by the OIC foreign ministers meeting are the Palestinian problem with focus on the Palestinian uprising, the seven-and-a-half-a-year-old Iran-Iraq war, the expected Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, the status of Muslims in the Philippines, economic policies in Islamic states and inter-Islamic relations.

The seriousness of the issues on the agenda for the conference was underlined by OIC Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzadeh who said upon arrival here Thursday that the meeting takes place amid "serious and critical circumstances prevailing in the Arab and Islamic World."

Pirzadeh said that the Islamic World "is in dire need to patch up its differences, unify its stand and regain its solidarity so as to collectively meet the challenges confronting it."

There was no immediate word on casualties from Baghdad. But hundreds of civilians on both sides have been killed in savage tit-for-tat bombardments with missiles, air strikes and artillery.

## General Assembly faces resolution censuring U.S.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. General Assembly was expected to consider Friday a resolution condemning Washington because of its order closing the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission to the United Nations.

Barring a last-minute reprieve or legal injunction, the 13-year-old mission must close down next Monday.

Defying the American order, PLO envoy Zeid Labib Terzi told reporters he would go to jail first.

Herbert Okun, the U.S. delegate, told U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar last week that the PLO mission must go irrespective of United States

witnesses said an army helicopter dumped gravel on a crowd of demonstrators in Ramallah Friday while troops opened fire on protesters in other areas.

The protests came despite an overnight round-up of dozens of suspected Palestinian activists, which Israeli sources said was aimed at preventing widespread protests on Land Day on March 30, commemorating the death of six Arabs in a 1976 demonstration against land confiscation.

In Gaza, troops were stationed outside every mosque to try to prevent what have become weekly mass demonstrations in which worshippers stone troops, burn tyres and block roads.

Friday was the first time the army was known to use a gravel-spewing helicopter to disperse protesters. Last week the army unveiled a machine that fired gravel at a high velocity at ground level.

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## King returns after talks in Riyadh, Sanaa

By a Jordan Times Staff writer with agency despatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Friday after working visits to Saudi Arabia and North Yemen during which he discussed with Saudi King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh the latest developments in the Middle East and the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The protests came despite an overnight round-up of dozens of suspected Palestinian activists, which Israeli sources said was aimed at preventing widespread protests on Land Day on March 30, commemorating the death of six Arabs in a 1976 demonstration against land confiscation.

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there was no agreement between the two superpowers over a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

The success of any peace plan will also need the backing of all members of the Security Council, he said.

The Crown Prince urged the Soviet Union to "actively" pur-

chase

King Hassan II of Morocco

received a message from King

Hussein Thursday.

The message was delivered to

King Hassan by Court Minister

Adrian Abu Odeh.

Summit could be held in April

In Tunis, Arab League sources

said an extraordinary Arab

summit meeting devoted to the

situation in the Israeli-occupied

territories was likely to be held in the

first half of April.

The sources, quoted by the

Arab League, 13 have formally

accepted the holding of a summit,

more than the simple majority

needed, according to the sources.

Bahraini Information Minister

Tariq Al Moayyed said Thursday

that King Hussein was expected

to play a prominent role in the

summit.

Moayyed said the King would

play an important role at the

Arab gathering as he did at the

one held last November in

Amman.

"Now is as good a time as any

to solve the Middle East con-

flict," the minister said in an

interview with visiting BBC cor-

respondent Maurice Gent.

The summit would deal with

both the Arab-Israeli conflict

and the Iran-Iraq war, the two items

that had also dominated the Am-

man meeting, according to the

minister.

"A practical commitment to

Resolution 598 will save us

the effort of discussing the presence

of any fleets in the Gulf, whether

Western or multinational," he

said.

In his response, Prince

Hassan stressed that the implementa-

tion of Resolution 598 in all its provi-

sions and putting an end of the

war remained the real solution for



## The speaking stones of Jordan

By Bill and Lee Jobling

THE desert region of southern Jordan is a stark, spectacular land, harshly arid and unwelcoming to the sustenance of human life. This always led to the belief that few people could have ever made it their home. Recently, however, an Australian team has begun to show that, far from being virtually unpopulated, the region has had a long history of habitation and population movement. If the troops of Midian prowled and prowled around, as an English hymn has it, then it may well have been here that they did their prowling and, while doing it, they or someone very like them left a rich historical record on the rocks and walls of Jordan's desert wadis (valleys).

It was during the winter of 1979-80 that the Aqaba-Man Archaeological and Epigraphic Survey discovered the first of what has proved to be an abundant hoard of ancient rock drawings and inscriptions. The enormous number of these finds reveals that an area once considered culturally barren is, in fact, full of graphic evidence of man's response to his environment. The survey team now quite sure that about 2,000 years ago the region was demographically very different, and that the rock graffiti was largely the work of people living in settled communities rather than that of desert nomads.

The movement of people in the past is evidenced by thousands of human markings, which were usually incised on the upper surface of large boulders where the black patina of the desert forms. This makes a splendid background for the pale gold drawings of animals and humans, which serve as a guide to the lifestyles of the artists and the social conditions that prevailed. They are a guide, too, to climatic variations and how different, in all probability, the region's climate and vegetation were in antiquity.

Animals, such as leopards, are unheard of in Jordan today, but they appear as a relatively popular subject in the old rock art. This suggests that the gradual change of vegetation over the last two to three millennia must have led to the dying out or movement of the species.

These stones, which make up the scree at the base of the hills and cliffs that rise from the wadis,

are the canvases on which the early artists painted. Among the many hunting and herding scenes are depictions of men on horseback, ibex, ostriches, leopards, hyenas, dogs and camels. Some are both socially informative and aesthetically pleasing, especially the drawings of camels. Clearly, these ancient people were closely associated with their environment and with the animal life that shared it with them. Often the artist adapted the subject to the shape of a rock surface, so that the end result bears the wholeness of a completed work of art.

One of the most prolific artists was "Sasrat," whose name appears beside many drawings. After several years of work with the inscriptions, members of the survey team are sometimes able to recognise an individual writing style, even when there is no signature. Usually, a unique way of forming particular letters is the guideline. The work of one person is often found in various places in a wadi, indicating the movement of a caravan or of a herd.

The drawings can be approximately dated by the inscriptions that sometimes accompany them,

which are usually in Old North Arabian script (Thamudic). Some, however, are in Nabataean, the language of the people of Petra, the ancient city carved out of mountain rock in south Jordan. Many of these inscriptions are genealogies and give identity to the artists. Some are prayers. Others are a combination of the two, saying things like: "By Habib son of Bimlah son of Habib, and may Dushaus (the god) remember Shetkmalak, and Habib inscribed (this)."

One such drawing of a camel and its attendant inscription has finally solved the mystery of the phonetic value of a Thamudic grapheme and clearly will end an international linguistic debate. Until now, scholars have attributed the sound "th" to the consonant in question, but it is now quite certain that the sound should be pronounced "g." This means that many words that were previously known from North Arabic, but mistranslated, can now be more accurately understood.

The bedouin of the area today, always friendly, hospitable and helpful, are quick to show the way to the many sites known to them from their long, intimate knowledge of the land, of herding goats, sheep and camels up and down the wadis. On one occasion, when members of the team attempted, without much success, to emulate the rock drawings, a young bedouin boy disappeared for a moment and returned with a sharp flint, found in the wadi bed, and a stone. Beating the stone against the flint, he soon produced a drawing of a camel very like the pre-Islamic ones. His, however, was much clearer; many hundreds of years will be necessary to bring it to the colour of those made by the forerunners of his tribe. And if he were to inscribe it, he would use Arabic, not the old script of the Thamudic or Nabataean people who once populated his land.

The immense number of inscriptions indicates not only that people lived here but that these wadis may have been important caravan trade routes. This could add to the already intricate pattern of movement in an area that, until recently, has been archaeologically neglected because of its harsh environment. The rock drawings give evidence of a large number of people living in and moving through the area.



On this rockface was found the inscription that led to a significant breakthrough in understanding a phonetic mystery in the ancient Thamudic alphabet.

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In many places, it is possible to see quite clearly the deeply worn tracks made over the centuries by camel hooves plodding steadily between the Arabian peninsula and the northern trading cities. The genealogies inscribed on the rocks tell us the artists' names and often the names of their fathers and grandfathers. But who were these people? How did they live and to whom did they owe allegiance? Our answers must, to a certain extent, be speculative. At least some of them were educated — they could write; the evidence is there in the stones of the wadis. They herded and hunted; scenes of both activities abound. They fought with each other as well as with wild animals, and they may have had domesticated dogs. Many scenes show men with weapons engaged in combat. Others show them pursuing ibex, apparently accompanied by dogs who seem to be attacking the prey. The artists had a sense of humor, too, and like their modern counterparts, often left specifically erotic graffiti.

The genealogies, which extend back to the third, fourth and sometimes earlier generations, are important statements that reflect the social structures and values of the pre-Islamic people.

Together with the rock art, the inscriptions reveal many things about man's relationship to the land and provide us with a most explicit picture of the life of the writers. The genealogies have social and legal implications. They are statements of relationships concerning protection, vengeance, rights of pasture or water resources, and give details of marriage lines that indicate prospective wives and the taboos of women. This information provides a description of the life and times of these areas long before the advent of Islam in the seventh century A.D.

The people who left their mark so clearly on the land were most likely farmers living in small villages. Their drawings show that the area supported a multiplicity of animal life, unlike today when few animals other than the domesticated herds of the bedouins can be found. The human population was probably much greater, too. The remains of various cisterns, dams and wells suggest that what is now desert

was once a more favourable environment. This evidence of hydrotechnology — of the controlled use of surface and underground water — indicates a certain level of technical knowledge and social organisation and is a clue to the type of culture that existed.

As in all desert lands, water is a most important commodity. The best known watering place in the area is called "Lawrence's Bath." However, there are many other places where water is obtainable, some of which have been in use for at least two thousand years. Natural places of catchment on the rock faces of the hills and mountains have been widened and deepened by the bedouins, and their forerunners. On the sites of ancient settlements, one can see the remains of large cisterns with capacities of more than 100,000 liters. One such cistern, hallowed out of the rock of a hill, is still in use by today's bedouins, as is any ancient water hole that continues to collect moisture. Rock-hewn channels and the remains of aqueducts used by the people of antiquity to carry water across wadis have been found as well.

This is evidence of a high degree of skill in building techniques and hydrotechnology.

Many of the cisterns, dams and channels carry the distinctive signature of the Nabataeans, whose main centre was Petra. They had a special manner of hatching stone that can still be seen in the monuments of that city and which is also evident in the stone walls of the waterways in the southern desert wadis. The bedouins have done little to change these water collection sites; in fact, they needed to do little. Given the highly developed techniques of the original builders, these ancient water facilities have stood well the test of time and usage.

The rock art and inscriptions, too, have endured; and the vast numbers that have been found in Jordan indicate that similar markings must be awaiting discovery in the areas still unexplored. The task is as daunting as the desert is wide; but with the continued support of the Australian Government, the Jordan Department of Antiquities and the University of Sydney, it is hoped that much of the wonderful rock art of pre-Islamic Jordan will be recorded for posterity.

Photos by Michael Bannigan

## JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — March 19, 1988

8:30 Special programme

9:00 Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film  
Forbidden Knowledge

Starring:  
Anthony Quinn



A film about an engineer who was accused as being behind a disaster.

Sun. — March 20, 1988

8:30 Special programme

9:10 Costean Adventure  
New documentary

10:20 Secret Army  
Hymn to Freedom

Mon. — March 21, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Vanity Fair

10:20 Feature Film  
A Fight for Jenny

Starring:

Philip Michael Thomas  
Lesley Ann Warren

The film based on a true story drama about a southern couple whose marriage prompts a Supreme Court battle with her ex-husband to gain custody of their young daughter.

Tue. — March 22, 1988

8:30 Special programme

9:10 Standby... Light!  
Camera! Action!

10:20 Murder She Wrote  
Obituary for a Dead Anchor

11:10 Three's Company  
Cyrano de Tripper

Starring:  
Tyne Daly  
Richard Crenna  
Marla Balsam

The triumphs and heartbreaks of raising a Down's Syndrome child are movingly portrayed in this film. Joanna and Bob Goodman are the couple who decide to bring their afflicted child Alex home to raise him rather than give him up to an institution. They face ignorance and scorn from the medical community and from their own neighbours, yet they persevere.

Thur. — March 24, 1988

8:30 Special programme

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film  
Kids Like These

Starring:

Richard Dreyfuss  
Dustin Hoffman

The triumphs and heartbreaks of raising a Down's Syndrome child are movingly portrayed in this film. Joanna and Bob Goodman are the couple who decide to bring their afflicted child Alex home to raise him rather than give him up to an institution. They face ignorance and scorn from the medical community and from their own neighbours, yet they persevere.

Fri. — March 25, 1988

8:30 Special programme

9:10 Magnum  
Dream A Little Dream

10:20 Falcon Crest

Filmed in Britain, the USA and Canada, the programme features the live-saving cardiac rescue

for the live-saving cardiac rescue

for the live-saving cardiac rescue

8:30 Special programme

9:00 Well Being  
Heart Attack

Heart disease is a major cause of unnecessary death in Britain. This programme special looks at what causes heart disease and what can be done to prevent it.

Filmed in Britain, the USA and Canada, the programme features the live-saving cardiac rescue

for the live-saving cardiac rescue

**PLANS FOR AMMAN:** Greater Amman Mayor Abd Al-Raouf Al Rawabdeh chaired a meeting to review plans for future municipality projects. These projects, according to municipality officials, include the establishment of more public gardens, opening of streets and roads, and also repairing those damaged in the winter season.

**PEOPLE'S ARMY:** A group of People's Army recruits graduated after undergoing three months training course in the use of light arms and in first-aid skills. The graduates are all secondary school students from Koura school.

**ZARQA CELEBRATION:** Celebrations will be held in Zarqa Governorate Sunday marking the Al Israa Wal Mi'raj feast.

The Department of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs here has made arrangements for these celebrations, which will be held in 20 mosques around the governorate.

Also in Zarqa a charity bazaar

was opened Thursday by the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) to mark the country's celebrations of Mothers Day, which falls on Monday March 21. The three-day bazaar displays national Jordanian costumes, paintings and embroideries as well as food and sweets.

**HEALTH TALKS:** The Health Ministry will take part in an advisory meeting on legislation for occupational health which will be held in May in Tunis by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

**FAO PROGRAMMES:** The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Assistant Director General Salah Jum'a arrived here Friday for talks with a number of Jordanian officials on FAO programmes and projects in Jordan.

**ART EXHIBITION:** Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, the president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts, Thursday opened an art exhibition by Olivia Paliard at the Alia Art Gallery. The exhibition, organised by the French Cultural Centre in Amman, runs until March 28.

**KARAMEH BATTLE:** Mu'ta University in Karak has prepared a programme to celebrate the anniversary of the 1968 Karameh battle which falls on Monday. The programme includes poetry festival, display of posters and film shows about the battle.

**PSYCHIATRISTS:** The Jordanian Psychiatrists Association will take part in an international conference which will be held in Cairo Sunday, according to the association's president Adnan Takriti. Takriti, who will lead the delegation to the four-day conference, will submit a working paper on the sexual disturbances among Jordanian males. The conference, he added, will also discuss mental disturbances among children.

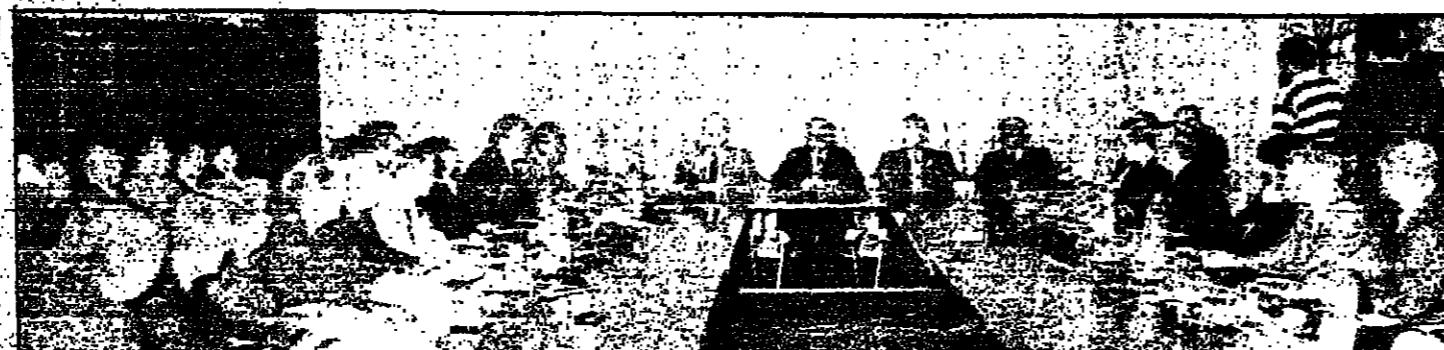
**2 MURDERS:** A 22-year-old man identified only as F.S.A. from Balqa Governorate killed his 28-year-old female cousin by firing several shots on her. The body was transferred to Al Hussein Hospital in Salt for autopsy and the man was apprehended. No reason was given for the murder. At Deir Alla, in the Jordan Valley a 25-year-old woman identified as S.M. was killed by an unidentified assailant. Police sources said that the victim received three fatal shots which caused her instant death.

**S. KOREAN ENVOY:** South Korea's outgoing ambassador in Amman Dong Soon Park will host a farewell party Sunday, March 27, on the occasion of the end of his term of office in Jordan. Park, ambassador to Jordan since May 1985, will be succeeded by Tae-Jin Park.

**TRAINING FARM:** University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali and a number of university board members Thursday paid an inspection visit to the university's training farm in the central Jordan Valley. Dr. Majali was briefed on the farm's activities and services by students and farmers in the valley.

**LECTURE:** Prof. Friedrich Bender will deliver a lecture in English on Geology and natural resources in Jordan Tuesday, March 22, at the Goethe Institute in Amman.

**BROADCASTERS:** British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) announcer Brian Ambringham is currently supervising a week-long intensive training programme for broadcasters of news in English at Radio Jordan and Jordan Television stations. The course is providing practical training in news reading to improve efficiency of the broadcasters.



Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi receives the Finnish Passikivi council in Amman Thursday (Petra photo)

## Lawzi holds talks with Finnish Passikivi Council

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — A delegation from the Finnish Passikivi Council met here Thursday with the Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and reaffirmed Finland's support for United Nations efforts to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The delegation leader voiced his country's appreciation of His

Majesty King Hussein's endeavours, and said the King's visit to Finland contributed a great deal towards the Finnish people's understanding of the just Arab cause.

He said the delegation augmented Finland's information and knowledge about Middle East

issues with this visit to Jordan, where its members were briefed on and also witnessed progress and development in all fields.

For his part, Lawzi spoke about the King's worldwide efforts for establishing peace in the Middle East.

He also explained Jordan's ongoing efforts to help the Palesti-

nian people since 1948 and reiterated the Kingdom's continued drive to convene an international conference for establishing a lasting peace in the area.

The 43-member delegation which is due to leave for home Saturday were taken on a tour of the ancient Nabatean city of Petra Friday.

government. Both demands are rejected by Moscow.

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Pakistan is sending its Minister of Finance Mahboub Al Haq to the Islamic foreign ministers conference due to open in Amman March 21, according to the Pakistani ambassador in Amman.

Saghir Hussein, a retired army lieutenant-general, told the Jordan Times in an interview Thursday that the Pakistani foreign minister would be attending United Nations-sponsored talks in Geneva on Afghanistan and therefore would not be taking part in the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting in Amman.

Pakistan expects that the Geneva talks will produce agreement in the next 10 days, Hussein said. If no agreement is reached, the Afghan issue will be discussed at length in the Amman meeting, he said.

Afghanistan and Pakistan have

agreed on the essentials of Soviet

troop withdrawal from Afghanistan,

but the Geneva talks are stal-

led over Pakistan's demand for an

end to Soviet military aid to

Kabul and for progress towards

the formation of a new Kabul

government.

Hussein described the Amman

conference as "very vital" since

"it will deal with important issues

directly affecting the region." He

added that "Pakistan will make a

concerted effort in resolving the

issues of the region."

The OIC's choice of Amman

for holding the conference is

"an indication of the Islamic World's

faith in Jordan and King Hus-

sein," Hussein said. This faith

was strengthened after the suc-

cessful last November's extra-

ordinary Amman summit, he said.

The ambassador said the Iran-

Iraq war and the Palestinian uprisings would top the agenda of the conference.

The Iran-Iraq war has to be discussed at length, he said, because the war is "affecting humanity, touching not only men but women and children also."

He described the Palestinian uprising as the "retaliation of the oppressed against oppression" after years of silence. Israel has not been fair to the silent people and therefore the conference should exert pressure on the superpowers, which are seen as the leaders of the democratic world, to help us in reaching a solution," he said.

Hussein predicted that the uprising would continue until the Palestinians reach victory because the uprising "is being led by the younger generation and the younger generation's anger is stronger and more enduring than ours (the older generation)."

Hussein's definition of victory for the Palestinians is for them to have "their own government, their own rule in their own country."

The rest is "a family affair which can be decided later," he said. "The most important thing is that they are liberated."

## Pakistani ladies to raise funds for martyrs' families in Palestinian uprising

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The importance of supporting the Palestinian national uprising has moved the Jordan-Pakistan Friendship Association in cooperation with the Jordan Women Federation into planning a fair in order to collect funds for the families of Palestinian martyrs' families.

The two-day fair, which will be under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath, will begin on March 31 at Al Hussein Sports City in Amman and will include interesting activities for all family members.

According to Mrs. Sadegh Saghir Hussein, wife of the Pakistani ambassador in Amman, this fair is being held to "express the deep feeling among Pakistani women living in Jordan towards the uprising, and the need to support its continuity until it achieves its purpose."

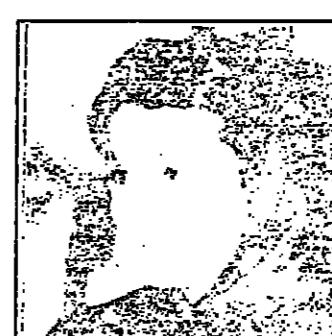
Hussein added that the Pakistani women have joined hands with Jordanian women to support the legitimate uprising which is being staged by children who want to win their rights to self determination."

Hussein also said it is common

knowledge that everyone in the

Islamic World feels with the suf-

fering of Palestinians living in the



Princess Sarvath



occupied Arab territories, but that it is very important to let them know that these feelings are not only in our hearts and we are also willing to help."

Although Hussein could not say how much money they expect to collect from the fair, but she said "every drop adds to creating an ocean," and that this fair will not be the end but "only a first step."

## Medical team to study Zarqa Ma'in Spa water

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — An eight member medical team, from the Ministry of Health, has embarked on a study of the Zarqa Ma'in Spa water to determine its beneficial effects on health.

Dr. Khalil Hamed, the leader

of the team said his colleagues

will spend four days at the spa

where they will offer treatment to

patients and visitors, in addition

to conducting water tests.

Participants also discussed the

FAO working programme for the

next two years and the current

financial crisis it is facing, due to

the failure of member states to

pay their commitments towards

the organisation.

During his visit to Oman, Mr.

Hmoud held talks with the Omani

minister of agriculture and

fisheries on bilateral cooperation

and the exchange of experiences

in the agricultural field.

The Omani minister will visit

Jordan at a later date at the

invitation from Hmoud.

The spa management last week

announced that a 150-room hotel,

built within the spa complex,

was open to the public and tourists

from Jordan and foreign countries.

The Isha Hotel has adjoining

integrated therapeutic facilities,

using the hot and mineral water,

and also has chalets to house

visitors.

The complex has swimming

pool,

tennis courts,

play-

ground

for

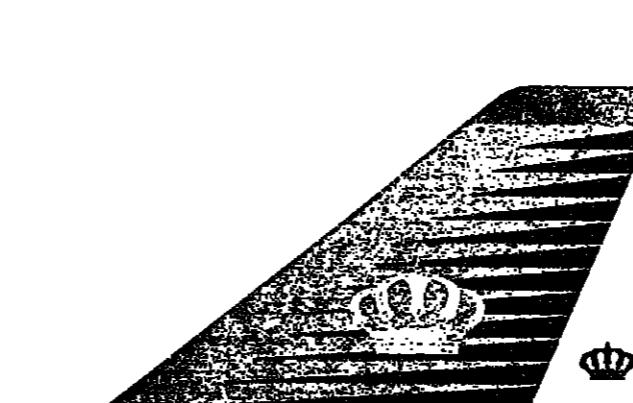
children

and

other

essential recreation facilities.

There are a total of 60 natural



## Twice weekly as of May

Royal Jordanian is pleased to announce the opening of twice weekly service to Miami from Amman as of May 3, 1988. Serving the U.S. 14 times weekly with all widebody, 3 class flights, Miami is our fourth American gateway along with New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

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Hisham Al Khatib  
Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb. The Mufti of the Armed Forces was the main speaker at the event (Petra photo)

## Khatib, Ramadan discuss cooperation in energy

BAGHDAD (Petra + J.T.) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib was received here Thursday by Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Tahia Yassin Ramadan who discussed with him Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation in energy-related affairs.

Khatib, who attended an Arab energy conference which ended Thursday evening, had delivered Jordan's address, urging Arab states to step up their cooperation in energy matters and to adopt

clear energy policies with the help of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

The conference issued a statement at the closing session in Baghdad, urging Arab countries to conserve energy and diversify their economies to cut dependence on oil and gas.

The statement pledged support for Iraq in its war with Iran and urged the international community to implement a U.N. ceasefire solution 598 to end the conflict (See page 6).

## Jordan Times

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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Airai: Calling for a summit

NOW that there is a quorum for holding an extraordinary Arab summit called for by Algeria, one can hope that all the Arab states would attend the meeting and take part in constructive discussions. The meeting will most probably be devoted to supporting the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories which has been continuously escalating. Needless to say that Jordan was and still is the main and staunchest supporter of this uprising materially and politically; and through King Hussein and his tour abroad has won this uprising world-wide support. The King left no stone unturned in the search for peace, and in enlisting European countries' backing for the rights of the Palestinian people. It is natural, therefore, for Jordan to support efforts designed to convene an Arab summit meeting for backing the uprising and for taking a constructive pan-Arab stand for liberating the Arab territories. The uprising, together with efforts of the Arab countries can provide the most essential elements for successful endeavours on the part of the Arab World; and any constructive resolutions to be taken by the Arab leaders are bound to help realise Arab aims.

### Al Dustour: Arab coordination

KING Hussein's talks with North Yemen's president Ali Abdullah Saleh are part of Jordan's continued efforts to coordinate Arab countries' stands and rally their forces to confront the serious challenges posed to the Arab Nation. This coordination is essential especially at a time when the Zionist enemy is escalating oppression against the Arab people of Palestine and trying to thwart their uprising. King Hussein who is spearheading the nation's efforts for solidarity and liberation seeks a concerted and unified Arab stand which he considers as the most important and effective guarantee for the Arabs in their confrontation of the looming dangers. The Israeli atrocities against the Palestinian people and the current siege imposed on the Arab inhabitants should prompt all Arabs to seek all possible means for supporting and aiding their brothers under Israeli oppression, and should move the Arabs to help their kinsmen and to end their nightmare. Israel has tried all means for ending the uprising, beating the bones of youth, demolishing their homes and laying siege to refugee camps. These criminal actions ought to be countered by a firm and effective Arab measure that can ensure an end to occupation and the long Arab sufferings.

### Sawt Al Shabab: Shamir shuns peace

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has ended his talks with U.S. officials in a deadlock because President Reagan has failed to persuade him to accept a U.S. plan for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. This result came as no surprise to Jordan because Israel has been placing one obstacle after another in the path of all efforts and along the past 30 years to thwart serious attempts to bring peace to the Middle East. Indeed, Israel has been stepping up its expansionist plans and increasing its inhuman practices against the Arab citizens. Ever since U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 has been issued, the United Nations and world organisations and various nations have failed to force Israel to make peace. Shamir's rejection of the latest U.S. proposal will not be the last of Israel's obstacles laid in the path of peace which should be based on the return of Arab lands to their lawful owners. Jordan has been persistent in its efforts to exchange land for peace under a comprehensive and lasting settlement which can come through an international conference in which all concerned parties can take part, but Shamir still insists on partial solutions that can achieve no peace.

### Thursday's

### Airai: Campaigning for unity

KING Hussein has resumed his diplomatic moves in the Arab World for unifying Arab countries stands in the face of dangerous threats especially in the face of the Israeli measures against the Palestinian people. His visit to Saudi Arabia and talks with King Fahd ibn Abdul Aziz and his following visit to North Yemen are intended as part of the Jordanian diplomatic move abroad and a continuation of the monarch's earlier contacts and consultations with the leaders of Egypt, Kuwait, Syria and Iraq. This move is an exercise of Jordan's true and genuine desire to form a unified Arab stand, capable of confronting the challenges that are increasing by the day. The time element in building up a unified stand is very important, and the Arabs ought to take the initiative if they are to achieve any results in their endeavours. They should act now in view of indications that Israel, which is showing continued intransigence is hatching a plot to militate the Arab people in the occupied territories after cutting off their telephone communications with the rest of the world. The Arabs should not wait for the catastrophe to take place and then deplore the enemy's actions, but should rather take the initiative and thwart the new Israeli conspiracy.

### Al Dustour: Constructive moves

THE King's visit to Saudi Arabia is complementary to those he made to other Arab countries, and the talks in Riyadh are part of the continued Jordanian efforts to arrive at a unified and concerted Arab stand in the face of the fateful challenge. The King's on-going consultations with Arab leaders come as the uprising in the occupied Arab territory is being escalated, and as the Arabs feel that their national responsibility is becoming heavier and more serious. The situation in the occupied Arab territories calls on the Arabs to carry out urgent action designed to support the Palestinian people in the occupied lands who are trying to defend their rights and holy places. There is no doubt that the latest U.S. initiative on the Middle East calls for stepped up diplomatic moves and consultations for the sake of arriving at a common understanding and a common conception of how to deal with it and the new developments in our area. In addition, the current escalation in the Gulf war and the war of cities, call on the Arabs to make constructive moves that aim at ending the conflict in the Gulf and save the lives of innocent civilians.

## The Soviet Union's Iran dilemma

By Scheherazade Daneshkhu

EVER since Iran refused to accept Security Council Resolution 598, calling for a ceasefire in the Gulf, there have been incessant reports of an imminent Soviet move to endorse an arms embargo against Iran. And yet, seven months have passed since 598 was first agreed and the arms embargo is still only at the level of discussion.

Despite recent reports that the Soviet Union is about to support a U.N. resolution calling for enforcement measures, it seems highly unlikely that it has changed its policy. And, though there are good reasons why it should support the U.N., there are a number of even better reasons why it does not. These reasons are almost completely dictated by the Soviet Union's standing with its sympathisers in the rest of the world and by strategic considerations, rather than bilateral relations with Iran. This is not to say that Moscow would not wish to enjoy cordial relations with Iran, but rather that Iran's government has shown that hopes for substantive Soviet gains from such a relationship cannot emerge.

The clearest indication of this came roughly three years after the revolution, during which period the Soviet Union supported Iran in the U.N. over the hostage crisis, directed the Tudeh (Communist) party in Iran to cooperate with the emerging theocracy and played down the embarrassing issue of Iranian help to rebel groups in Afghanistan. Yet by 1982, the Tudeh party's newspaper had been shut down as a prelude to a massive crackdown on the party's membership. Over 1,000 members were arrested and, in 1983, the secretary-general of the Tudeh, Nurreddin Kianuri, was arrested and finally executed. In addition, Iran started broadcasting to the Muslim population in the southern Soviet provinces from a newly-installed transmitter and open-

ly condemned the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. This led to a political breakdown in the relationship and the stepping-up of Soviet arms supplies to Iraq in the second half of 1982. The economic relationship was not affected to the same degree. Although exports of Iranian oil to the Soviet Union diminished considerably, Soviet technical advisors remained in Iran until the "bombing of the cities" in 1983.

The lesson that the Soviet Union appears to have drawn from its relationship with post-revolutionary Iran is that, whatever it does, it cannot hope for pro-Soviet tilt under the Islamic Republic. The ideological antagonism to Communism and to "superpower domination," be it American or Soviet, runs too deep in Iran for anything other than relations calculated strictly in terms of Tehran's short-term interests. For this reason, the Soviet Union has contented itself by going back to the "first principles" of its own global interests, namely the reduction of U.S. political and military power worldwide. The revolution in Iran saw an end to U.S. influence in the country and, despite the anti-Soviet character of its government, it therefore represented a net gain to the Soviet Union.

If there is no long-term hope of gaining Iran's friendship, what then is stopping the Soviet Union from endorsing the arms embargo, and thereby securing the approval of the West? In the short-term, the most obvious (and overrated) consideration is Afghanistan. In an interview earlier this month with Japanese television, the speaker of the Iranian parliament, Hashemi Rafsanjani, said that once Soviet troops withdrew from Afghanistan there would be no "pending issues" between the two countries. Iran would help the USSR in implementing its withdrawal by ensuring the U.S. does not step in afterwards to impose its influence by Iran in Afghanistan.

Beyond this, there is probably a more fundamental reason for the Soviet Union's reticence over the arms embargo. Iran has felt aggrieved by its treatment at the hands of the U.N. ever since Iraq first launched its invasion in September 1980. For example, the Security Council only called for the immediate withdrawal of all forces to the international frontier in July 1982, only two months after Iran had finally succeeded in driving out almost all Iraqi troops from its soil and entering Iraq itself. For this and other reasons, such as the ritual and selective condemnation of Iranian attacks on tankers in the Gulf when in fact Iraq has attacked twice the number of ships, Iran has continued to maintain that U.N. is under the influence of the U.S.'s undoubted hostility to the Islamic Republic.

Jibril, for instance, launched the hang-glider attack on an IDF base in northern Israel that killed six soldiers and helped inspire the uprising in the territories. A Jibril-run radio station broadcasting from Syria or Lebanon has been encouraging the uprising in the territories.

Syria may also have toyed with the option of actually provoking an attack from Israel, thus sparking a conflict that would allow it to make military or diplomatic gains, said Maoz.

What strategy will Assad use in his future dealings with Israel — simple deterrence, blitzkrieg, provocation, a war of attrition, or a comprehensive war?

Maoz rules out only the option of comprehensive war. "My opinion is that it's too early for him to launch a comprehensive war, and he couldn't do it without the help of another Arab state."

Beyond that, Maoz refuses to make any predictions.

"I don't know. Allah doesn't know either," he said. "Assad, the sphinx of Damascus, prepares various options for himself. Various prophets have tried to predict what he would do, but nobody can, because so many factors are involved."

In considering, for instance, a blitzkrieg attack on the Golan

pincer.

"It could conquer large parts of the Golan, establish a strong defensive line, and then call for negotiations."

Syria's new military might, which includes a standing army of 500,000 men, is also proving to be an effective deterrent against Israeli attacks.

"Syria is deterring Israel from an attack on it without special provocation or exceptional circumstances," Maoz said. "Top IDF commanders are well aware of the 'heavy price' Israel would be forced to pay in a new confrontation," Maoz added, quoting Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, who once remarked, "The next war with Syria won't be a picnic for Israel."

Syria's growing military might has given Assad veto power over various recent U.S. and Israeli-supported peace initiatives, Maoz noted. "Even though Syria can't enforce its demands on Israel, it can block the diplomatic process."

And it has made Syria more able to employ other strategic military options. For instance, Syria successfully waged a war of attrition against Israel through Shite Lebanese allies in 1984-85. More recently, it has encouraged the uprising in the territories, via Syrian-backed Palestinian leaders such as Ahmed Jibril and his Popular Front-General Com-

mand.

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The Western bias against Iran, whether justified or not, has been acknowledged by such a prominent figure as Sir Brian Urquhart, the recently retired U.N. under-secretary-general. Gorbachev, therefore, has had to decide whether he really wants to throw in his lot with Reagan and Thatcher over this issue and effectively endorse the Western position, with all the implications that this would have on the Soviet Union's standing with Third World countries opposed to the U.S.

However, although Iran's help may not be crucial, it can certainly play a useful role in the settlement. In the wider context of Soviet-U.S. relations, Gorbachev knows very well that while compliance with the proposed arms embargo against Iran would be welcomed by the U.S., a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan is of far greater importance to the improvement of their relations. It is likely then, that Iran and the USSR have made a deal to the effect that the Soviet Union stalls on the arms embargo in the Security Council in return for a policy of no hindrance by Iran in Afghanistan.

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Heights, Assad, the pragmatist, would weigh the cold realities of the U.S., Israeli and Arab response. Would a war replenish the country's economic coffers or ruin the economy? Would it lead to a comprehensive war beyond Syria's control?

But against those logical considerations stand the musings of Assad the visionary. In this role, Assad is a man who still dreams of a grand design for the conquest of all Israel, said Maoz. He believes that in time the Jewish state will crumble, as did the Crusader's empire here. He cringes from his loss of the Golan Heights in 1967.

It is not purely by chance that Saladin, the 12th century Muslim who recaptured Palestine from the Crusaders, has become something of an idol in Syria.

"Today, Syria is a regional power equal to Iraq and Egypt. It has turned Lebanon into a protectorate. The youth, the coming generation who grew up on the knees of the Ba'ath regime, are largely loyal to Assad," observed Maoz.

"Does Assad also want to enter Arab history as the new Saladin, at least in the Gold Heights?" Maoz asked. "Will he try or will he be happy with what he has achieved? I want to leave the question open."

In the meantime, there may be another emergency session of the General Assembly on the matter, which goes far beyond the immediate argument whether the PLO may retain its mission.

Diplomats say that U.N. independence is at issue and that if the dispute is not resolved they must consider seriously whether the General Assembly can continue meeting in New York.

The United States said its action was "irrespective of any obligations" undertaken in the 1947 agreement that established U.N. headquarters in New York.

Terzi, 64, told reporters that U.S. authorities would have to lock him up before they could "take me away."

He cancelled plans to be in Geneva when the deadline falls.

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has called the American action a clear violation of the headquarters accord and protested strongly. The General Assembly referred the dispute to the World Court. Hearings will begin next month.

While the PLO's problem is with federal authorities, his life is not easy in a city that has a huge Jewish population and a Jewish mayor.

Mayor Edward Koch has called the United Nations "a cesspool" and this past weekend, protesters carrying the Israeli flag gathered outside the PLO mission singing Jewish songs and chanting "PLO, they have to go."

Terzi is a member of the Greek Orthodox church, said he used to attend its Brooklyn cathedral regularly until his wife, Wafid, died last year after an 11-year battle with cancer. He has two children.

Terzi was the PLO representative in Spain and several Latin American countries before coming here. His Spanish is fluent. In the United Nations, where Arabic is an official language, he prefers to use his lightly accented English, explaining that he can make his case better without interpretation, English being the common U.N. language.

Asked how he likes New York, he replied diplomatically. "Very interesting with a variety of entertainment, culture, brigandage and megalomaniacs."

## OPEN FORUM

### Kitshy stuff

MEN and women alike in our country are really impressed by illustrated magazines and gossip stories. Instead of our younger generation reading history, geography, science or social sciences, many of them read uneducational magazines and books. Entering a bookshop in Amman you find girls and women waiting in turn to buy a magazine like Al Shabaka or Al Mawid that they can read what is happening between an actor and his girlfriend or a singer and his wife. They are also enthusiastic to know what was the last-wedding in town and what were the women in that wedding wearing.

Also in similar bookshops you find men crowding around to read these magazines; in order not to let anybody see them reading the backs to you.

In general our younger generation should be much more interested in books; reading this kind of magazine costs a person 750 fils which is a lot of money to pay for gossip. Instead, people can read books or magazines that will cost them less money but are more educational, rather than wasting their time reading magazines of a lower standard.

People should stop reading these magazines and concentrate more on books that can benefit them in the longer term. Also I beg people who are in leadership positions, and who care about the education of our society, to fight the spread of these magazines into our book market.

Found N. Batshon



Zehdi Terzi

### Zehdi Terzi: A mild-mannered, hard-working diplomat

By Michael Littlejohns  
Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — The United States considers him an embodiment of "terrorism" even though a former American delegate likened him to Santa Claus, yet Zehdi Labib Terzi is known here as a mild-mannered, hard-working diplomat.

Ambassador Terzi, as he is known to those who regard the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a quasi-state, is its first and only permanent observer here.

If the United States has its way, he will be its last.

Invoking the 1987 anti-terrorist act, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese has served notice that the PLO mission in New York must close by next Monday.

The United States said its action was "irrespective of any obligations" undertaken in the 1947 agreement that established U.N. headquarters in New York.

Terzi, 64, told reporters that U.S. authorities would have to lock him up before they could "take me away."

He cancelled plans to be in Geneva when the deadline falls.

## MIDEAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### S. Arabia reported to buy Chinese missiles

WASHINGTON (R) — The Washington Post said Friday that China was selling medium-range missiles to Saudi Arabia which could reach any part of the Middle East with a nuclear warhead. But both countries said the missiles would not be used for nuclear purposes, the newspaper added. The Chinese CSS2-class surface-to-surface missiles, with a maximum range of 3,560 kilometres, could permit Saudi Arabia to exert more influence on disputes such as the Gulf war and Arab-Israeli conflicts, the Washington Post said. Saudi Arabia had assured the United States that it did not have or intend to acquire nuclear capability and China had assured Washington it would not sell nuclear weapons to any other country, the newspaper reported. But the State Department said the United States believed Saudi acquisition of such a weapon was not in the interests of peace and stability in the Middle East, the newspaper added.

### Ivory Coast closes Beirut embassy

BEIRUT (R) — Ivory Coast is to close its embassy in Lebanon in protest at the killing of up to 16 Africans in east Beirut last month and to avoid further attacks, official sources said Friday. "Due to attacks launched against Africans and the Ivory Coast embassy, and for fear of similar assaults in future, the embassy decided to close its doors for the time being," said a note from the mission to the Lebanese Foreign Ministry. The sources, who made the note available to Reuters, said the decision would go into effect Monday. It was taken despite a promise by President Amin Gemal to Ivory Coast Ambassador Koudou Aziegbo Armel that measures would be taken to protect Africans in the city after a wave of murders and two bomb attacks on the embassy. No casualties were reported from either bombing.

### Tunisia, Iran said to pursue contacts

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia, which broke diplomatic ties with Iran nearly a year ago, has had a series of contacts with Tehran aimed at improving relations, according to a senior Tunisian Foreign Ministry official. But Tunisia is insisting that Iran accept a ceasefire in its war with Iraq before possibly renewing ties, the official said Wednesday. "We have had contacts on several occasions with the Iranians at their request," said the official, without giving details. "We think we can only strengthen relations and renew them in the framework of Iran's acceptance of peace (in the Gulf war)," he added. Tunisia severed ties with Iran in March last year, accusing Tehran of supporting a clandestine network of Islamic fundamentalists seeking to topple the Tunisian government.

### Ozal visit to Baghdad in balance

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is going ahead with plans to visit Baghdad April 1 but the trip could be jeopardised by developments in the Iran-Iraq war, according to Foreign Ministry sources. The latest upsurge in the "war of the cities" started when Ozal was visiting Tehran at the end of February and some sources believe the Iraqi trip should be put off if attacks continue. "Ozal's visit to Baghdad might be re-evaluated at this stage of recent developments," Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz told Hurriyet, Turkey's biggest selling daily. Turkey mediated a brief truce in the attacks on civilian centres, but the two-day truce ended Sunday with a further upsurge of missile and air raids.

## PLO chairman attends brother's funeral in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat walked arm-in-arm with Egyptian ministers in Cairo Friday to mourn his elder brother Mustapha.

Surrounded by a tight ring of security men, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman accepted condolences from Prime Minister Atef Sedki, Foreign Minister Esmael Abdul Meguid and Egyptian opposition leaders.

Mustapha Arafat, one of several family members living in the Egyptian capital, died in a Cairo hospital of cancer Thursday, aged 65.

He had been in Cairo for 40 years and was not involved in politics, Palestinian sources said. His only known official position was chairman of the Palestinian Automobile Club.

Arafat arrived in Cairo Thursday night, 24 hours after talks at his Tunis base with Egyptian

President Hosni Mubarak's political adviser, Osama Baz, on the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza. Mubarak, who last met Arafat two months ago in Baghdad, did not attend the funeral. He was accompanying visiting United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan on a tour of the Sinai peninsula (see story below).

Later Friday, Arafat and Abdul Meguid discussed current peace efforts in the Middle East.

Abdul Meguid told reporters after the talks that they discussed the situation in the Middle East and current peace efforts.

Foreign Ministry sources said they discussed U.S. peace proposals which call for an international conference to launch separate talks on interim Palestinian "self-rule" in the West Bank and Gaza.

## Zayed's visit brings UAE and Egypt closer

CAIRO (R) — The president of Egypt paid his United Arab Emirates counterpart the rare honour of travelling with him on private visits in Egypt Thursday.

It seemed to be Hosni Mubarak's way of thanking Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, whose country was the first of 11 Arab states to restore ties with Egypt last year after an eight-year break.

Their journey together to the Sinai town of Sharm Al Sheikh also appeared to point to fruitful future relations.

Long talks between Sheikh Zayed and Mubarak during an official visit which ended Wednesday produced prospects of closer partnership in arms production and in tackling Arab problems, Arab diplomats said.

Sheikh Zayed, on his first trip to Egypt in a decade, made no secret of his support for Mubarak.

An Arab League summit in Amman last November freed member states to restore relations collectively severed after Egypt's treaty with Israel in 1979.

The isolation of Egypt from the rest of the Arabs has left the Arab World at a loss," Sheikh Zayed said in an interview with Cairo's weekly Al Mousawar last week.

The UAE president said the S.A.U.-brokered Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel which led to the 1979 treaty was a natural result of successive wars.

"Every war ends with peace ... no war lasts forever, as long as peace restores my land and rights," he said.

Sheikh Zayed also supports Egypt's return to the Arab League, from which it was suspended. "Egypt does not need the league, it is the Arabs who need Egypt in the league," he said.

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Washington Post said Friday that fired White House aide Oliver North sent a U.S. businessman to Canada in 1986 with \$100,000 as ransom for a U.S. hostage in Lebanon — and with a letter saying he was acting on behalf of President Reagan.

It said the businessman, courier, Jay Coburn, needed the letter because travellers could not take more than \$10,000 out of the United States without filing a

Coburn was to hand the money in Montreal to a Canadian of Armenian descent who said he could win the release of Peter Kilburn, an American University of Beirut (AUB) — librarian in Lebanon who had been taken hostage in 1984, the newspaper said.

It said the money was a down payment on a \$1 million ransom for Kilburn, but three months later Kilburn was turned over to a pro-Libyan group and killed in apparent retaliation for the U.S. bombing of Libya.

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Among the topics of legal nature, the conference will particularly study a draft document on human rights in Islam as was recommended by the fifth Islamic summit conference held in Kuwait in January 1987.

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## Arab energy conference urges cutting dependence on oil, gas

BAGHDAD (R) — An Arab energy conference Thursday urged Arab states to conserve energy and diversify their economies to cut dependence on oil and gas.

A statement at the end of the four-day meeting urged "rationa-lisation of domestic energy consumption and growth of non-oil economic sectors" to spare Arab economies damage from oil price fluctuations.

Most Arab economies plunged into recession when world oil prices began to decline in 1982, crimping development spending and foreign aid.

The Arab World owns early 60 per cent of world crude oil reserves and depends heavily on oil revenue to finance state spending.

But 90 per cent of the oil wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few Gulf Arab states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq

and the United Arab Emirates.

Experts warned that without greater cooperation between the oil-rich and oil-poor and alternatives to oil and gas, many Arab states will face serious energy shortages in the next century.

Already, 11 of 21 Arab states are net importers of refined oil products while domestic Arab energy consumption is growing by an average five per cent annually.

The conference urged Arab states to study wind, solar and nuclear power and boost use of natural gas, a cheap fuel for electricity generation.

It proposed ambitious schemes to transport Algerian and Gulf Arab gas to neighbour-

## Egypt lowers oil prices

CAIRO (R) — Egypt announced a 75-cent cut in its crude oil prices Thursday, the second reduction in two weeks that brought them to a 16-month low.

A spokesman for the state-owned Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation said top-quality Suez and Ras Bahar blends would now sell for \$13.25 a barrel, their lowest level since November 1986.

Prices for all grades were earlier cut by \$1 for the first half of March, in an apparent attempt to keep Egypt's share of a glutted world market.

Oil is a major foreign exchange earner for Egypt, which last week called a meeting in London of non-OPEC producers to discuss the downturn in world prices.

No statements have been made at the meeting, attended by representatives from Angola, China, Malaysia, Oman, Colombia, Mexico and Egypt. But one official said it was continuing at the Mexican embassy.

Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kan-deel said last week Egypt would be prepared to cut output if members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and non-OPEC nations acted jointly to curb production.

Egypt says it produces 870,000 barrels a day, of which about a third is exported.

An official of one of the countries attending the London talks said in the British capital Thursday: "It's an open-ended informal meeting of experts who have

a number of items on their agenda."

"They are not here to make any decisions, but to report back to their governments with a general consensus on how to react to the situation (of low oil prices)," he noted.

Spot oil markets remain weak, although above 16-month lows seen earlier this month, London traders said Thursday.

North Sea Brent crude traded for May delivery at \$14.83 a barrel in Europe Thursday afternoon, after changing hands below \$14.40 in the morning.

London traders said prices had sagged on reports that prevailing glut had now forced Saudi Arabia to offer discounts on OPEC's official \$18 a barrel to Japanese customers.

But traders then decided that the trouble in Panama might disrupt supplies to the U.S. east coast might influence the U.S. market.

"There are two camps in the market right now," said one, "the Panama camp, and the European camp. The European camp is much more bearish..."

Reports of Saudi Arabia's offer to Japan of "market-related" prices emanated from industry sources in Tokyo. They said it offered customers a formula linked to monthly average spot prices for Oman and Dubai crude plus 25 cents a barrel for its Arab light crude, and the Oman-Dubai average less a dollar for its less-prized heavy grades.

## United Saudi Commercial Bank reports loss

RIYADH (R) — United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) reported Thursday a 1987 net loss of 14.8 million riyals (\$3.9 million), the second of Saudi Arabia's joint-venture banks in the red during the year.

The Riyadh-based bank trimmed losses slightly after 1986's net deficit of 16.0 million riyals (\$4.3 million), but underlying earnings fell 20 per cent and new provisions against bad and doubtful loans were reduced by 45.5 per cent.

Results so far have been mixed, with four banks increasing profits, but Saudi British Bank sliding into the red and posting a 4.4 million riyal (\$1.2 million) loss.

Saudi banks have been hard hit by non-performing loans.

A USCB spokesman said the bank had now provided for 27 per cent of its outstanding loan book following a comprehensive analysis of its lending during 1986. Bankers said that ranks it among the best provided banks in the kingdom.

A 60.0 million riyal (\$16 million) allocation for provisions in 1988 was abnormally high, he said, with last year's level of 32.7 million (\$8.7 million) reverting to a more normal amount.

The bank spokesman said lower operating revenues was due to a lower return on the bank's investment portfolio last year after an extremely good 1986 and to a higher cost of funds.

The bank's total assets rose 10.7 per cent to 4.3 billion riyals (\$1.1 billion).

## British trade team begins promotion visit to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A British trade delegation representing 13 engineering and industrial firms in the United Kingdom has arrived in Amman on a five-day visit to Jordan.

The Engineering Industrial Association (EIA) in Britain is sponsoring the visit during which the group will meet a number of Jordanian officials, businessmen and industrialists.

The EIA, which has some 3,000 members, has been responsible for more than 100 missions over the past 10 years, and export orders generated by its members over the past five years come to £2 billion.

The group represents industrial gases, electronic components and spares, mechanical seals and power transmission couplings, pumps, auto-electrical replacement parts, low voltage electrical distribution equipment, machine and hand tools and lighting equipment.

## JAMPCO halts garlic imports

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) will not import any amount of green or dry garlic in order to support local production, JAMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan said here Thursday.

Abu Hassan noted that JAMPCO warehouses now contain no dry garlic because the company had sold the remaining quantities by the end of last month.

He added that JAMPCO does not plan to import any garlic until all the quantities in the markets have been consumed.

Abu Hassan appealed to local farmers to refrain from harvesting green garlic before it ripens and said that JAMPCO will continue to adopt measures designed to preserve stable prices that would encourage growers to increase output and make Jordan self sufficient in garlic.

Similar measures, he said, are being adopted to support growers of onions and potatoes.

## Swiss economic delegation to visit Jordan Thursday

AMMAN (Petra) — A Swiss trade and economic delegation is due here on March 24 on a week long visit to Jordan during which matters related to promoting Swiss-Jordanian trade will be discussed.

An official announcement said that the delegation members will meet with the ministers of industry, trade and supply, planning, energy and mineral resources, and other officials.

The delegation will also tour the Jordan Valley projects, the Dead Sea, the Jordan Fertilizer Industry Company in Aqaba, the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company projects, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Amman Financial Market and the Amman Chamber of Industry.

## Sudan renews oil exploration

BAGHDAD (R) — Sudan will soon sign its third oil and gas exploration concession in less than a year as part of a renewed drive to become an oil producer, Energy Minister Adam Moussa said.

He told Reuters in an interview that Sudan early this month signed an agreement with the Swiss firm Panico to explore for natural gas in the Red Sea off the town of Sawakin over an area of 13,000 square kilometres.

He expected another concession to be granted soon for an area in the northwestern corner of Sudan near the Libyan, Egyptian and Sudanese borders.

"We are studying proposals and hope to reach agreement with one or more firms in the next few weeks," he said.

Amoco, Conoco and American Global Resources of the United States and a United Arab Emirates firm Madibu did not name any in the running for the new concession in the northwest.

Madibu said Sudan is favouring refining the crude locally for domestic consumption.

## Arabs pledge \$267m for 117 Egyptian projects

CAIRO (R) — Arab business men have offered to help finance 117 new industrial, farming and tourism projects in Egypt, a senior Egyptian official has said.

Mohammed Al Ghurb, deputy chairman of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones, told the final session of an investment conference that more than 350 investors, mainly from Gulf states, offered to contribute.

The authority asked investors at the government-sponsored meeting to buy shares or offer credits to fund 79 projects worth a total of \$2.1 billion. They also suggested their own projects.

Ghurb said \$267 million of new money had been agreed and offers were still coming in.

"This conference is a real starting point toward Arab solidarity in economic development," he was quoted as saying by the national Middle East News Agency.

The meeting was organised after most Arab states restored diplomatic relations with Egypt four months ago, having broken them off to protest Cairo signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

## IMF team ends visit

Senior International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials ended talks with the Egyptian government on its economic reforms Thursday and left town as silently as they arrived.

IMF sources said a three-member team from the fund led by Middle East Director Abdul Shafiq Shaalan had returned to Washington to report to Managing Director Michel Camdessus.

No information was available on progress of their mission — seen by Western diplomats as a final review of Egyptian economic measures under a standby credits deal agreed last May.

It was up to Camdessus to decide what measures to take next, the sources said.

His decision is considered vital for Egypt's management of its debt-strained economy over the next two years.

The IMF has been disappointed by the pace of Egyptian reforms since last May.

Without fund endorsement of its measures to streamline exchange rates, raise domestic interest rates, narrow the budget deficit and reduce state subsidies, it will be hard for Cairo to win new rescheduling of its \$43.9 billion debt.

Egypt's current rescheduling accord with the Paris Club of Western government creditors, agreed after last May's IMF package, expires on June 30.

Western experts say Egypt is expected to apply for fresh payments relief from July until the end of next year, but this will be in jeopardy if the IMF does not give its economic management another seal of approval.

## WEEKLY ANALYSIS

### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (Petra) — The average daily trading in shares amounted to JD 401,007 last week whereas the total volume stood at JD 3,005,037.

A total of 1,701,620 shares changed hands through 1,804 transactions concluded at the market in the past week.

The industrial sector's volume was JD 1,100,204 representing nearly 54.9 per cent of the total volume of trading throughout the week.

The banking sector, which accounted for a total of JD 623,049, or 31.1 per cent of the total, registered an increase of 18.4 per cent over the previous week's figures.

The services sector amounted to 11.9 per cent of the total volume of trading, thus registering a six per cent increase over the figures of the past week.

The insurance sector's share of the total stood at 2.1 per cent.

Share prices in the banking and services sectors were stable but a decline was registered for some companies in the insurance and industrial sectors in the last two days of the past week.

The general price index closed at 116.9 points compared to an opening of 117.6 points at the start of the week, thus showing a retreat of 0.7 points.

Shares of 65 companies were traded last week with 10 companies showing a rise in share prices, 40 others registering a decline while the remaining 15 maintaining stability.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.8235/45	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2490/2500	Deutschmarks
	1.6940/50	Dutch guilders
	1.9015/25	Swiss francs
	1.4020/30	Belgian francs
	35.35/40	French francs
	5.7470/7500	Italian lire
	1253/1254	Japanese yen
	128.33/43	Swedish crowns
	5.9830/80	Norwegian crowns
	6.3780/9380	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	443.00/443.50	U.S. dollars

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Share prices hit post-crash highs in early trading and, despite falling back later, closed stronger with gains in all sectors. The All Ordinaries index was up 32.2 at 1,414.7.

TOKYO — Prices closed higher in robust trade although early optimism on U.S. trade data was tempered by a Bank of Japan warning that the stock market was rising too quickly. The Nikkei index rose 93.97 to 25,966.26.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed higher in active trading encouraged by reports of higher profits by big property firms. The Hang Seng index rose 26.27 to 607.60.

SINGAPORE — The market closed mixed in fairly active trading. Prices were higher initially following a rise on Wall Street and a firmer Tokyo market but fell back on profit-taking. The Straits Times industrial index rose 1.11 to 959.79.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed higher for the fourth day running in active trading, as the firmer dollar encouraged domestic and foreign investors. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, rose 26 to 1,457.5.

ZURICH — Prices closed firmer but below the day's highs. Trading was spurred by the stronger dollar and the overnight gain on Wall Street. The All Share Swiss index was up 5.7 at 863.4.

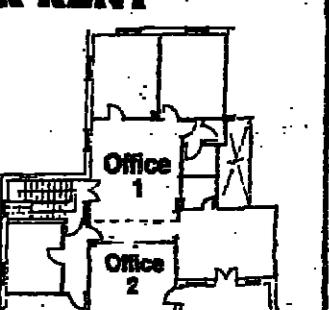
LONDON — Prices reached new highs in late trading, buoyed by a flurry of real-time buying for the new account. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 23.3 at 1,851.4.

NEW YORK — Stocks generally showed modest gains but Firestone jumped more than \$15 after a merger agreement. The Dow was up eight at 2,094.

## OFFICES FOR RENT

In Jabal Amman, 1st Circle, opposite Malhas Hospital. Good for doctors, lawyers or companies. Car park available. At 160 square metres, could be let as two separate offices with phone line for each office.

Contact phone 816377 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 6-10 p.m.



## FOR RENT

Deluxe fully-furnished part of villa; consists of 2 bedrooms, salon, dining room, guest room, kitchen, full carpeting, colour T.V. & telephone, with central heating. Location: Abdoun.

Tel: 632981, Amman.

## FOR SALE

Toyota Cressida 1981. Duty unpaid. Good condition.

Please call tel. 843555. Ext. (home) 3988 from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



## Sports

### AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE BASKETBALL FINAL STANDINGS



Junior champion — Dorma team

Junior Teams	
Champion	Dorma
Runner-up	Nash/EBB
3rd place	Arab Bank
4th place	Samar
5th place	Astra

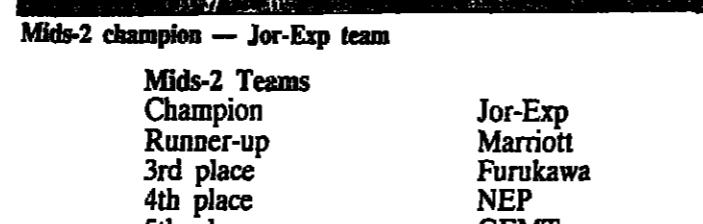


Mids-1 champion — NECC team

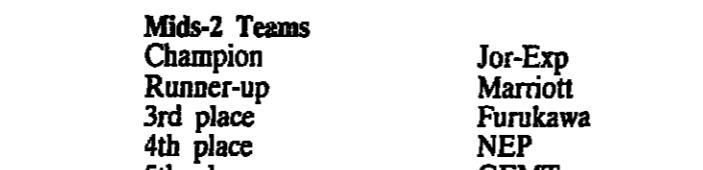


Mids-1 Teams

Mids-1 Teams	
Champion	NECC
Runner-up	Intercon
3rd place	Danish Dairy
4th place	Istiklal
5th place	EEE



Mids-2 champion — Jor-Exp team



Mids-2 Teams

Mids-2 Teams	
Champion	Jor-Exp
Runner-up	Marriott
3rd place	Furukawa
4th place	NEP
5th place	GEMT



Senior champion — France Lait team



Senior Teams

Senior Teams	
Champion	France Lait
Runner-up	JWM
3rd place	La Vache Qui Rit
4th place	Al-Ahlyah
5th place	Westinghouse

### GOREN BRIDGE

By CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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#### A KNAVISH DEFENSE

Neither vulnerable, South deals.

**NORTH**  
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♦ 9 2  
♦ 9 9 6 2  
♦ 9 7 5 3  
**WEST**  
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**EAST**  
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♦ A 1 5  
♦ K 10 7 5 3  
♦ K 4  
**SOUTH**  
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♦ 9 9 6 2  
♦ 9 7 5 3  
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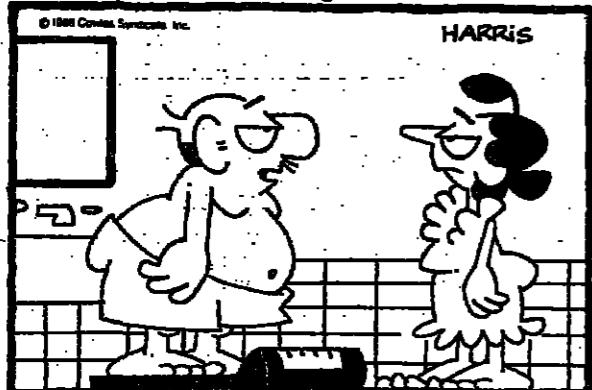
Opening lead: Six of ♦.

Style change: The old-fashioned treatment of a double of an opening bid of one no trump showed the equivalent of one no trump opening. The new method is to show a hand that is capable of defeating one no trump: it can be weaker than a one no trump opener but, in that case, it contains a good, long suit that can be developed by giving up one trick in the suit. The theory is that you seldom get a strong, balanced hand when someone has already shown 16-18 points, and the second type of holding crops up with much greater frequency.

When the smoke cleared, the defenders had collected four heart tricks, two diamonds and three clubs for 500 points.

### THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I've been dieting for 15 years and I've gained 45 pounds. Maybe I'm part of a real long 'Candid Camera' prank."

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**SEERA**

**MESAU**

**CUSPER**

**TRULIA**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: RAVEN GUMBO LEVITY CUDGEL

Answer: How they knew that the man-eating shark had been shot dead... THERE WAS A "BULLET-IN"

### FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1988

### YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Consult with some progressive, creative friends about how you can best improve the efficiency of your workplace. Maintain a positive attitude today, and you could make some valuable new contacts.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Spend some time discussing with your mate how you will proceed with your plans for the future. Get plenty of rest this evening.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 18) You can make your mate extremely happy this evening with just a smile and a hug. Use your energy in only positive directions.

**GEMINI** (May 19 to June 21) Listen to the ideas given to you by a clever friend; these are really very good ones. Go out with your family this evening.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) If you handle your work in a very competent manner, you will come to the attention of a superior who will help you advance.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can finish up a project you have been working on for a long time with a little help from a friend. Use the creative side of your nature.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A family friend can help you get your

home in better running order. Be sure to drive very carefully all day, and especially during the evening.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A partner may seem to be acting too basely, but this person will still get the right results, so don't do anything which could interfere.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A new co-worker can be very helpful to you, so accept this person gratefully. Take time for relaxation when your work is finished.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into some new types of recreation which will make your spare time more enjoyable. Don't take any silly risks tonight.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Invite some guests into your home tonight, and entertain them well. Don't do anything which could damage your reputation.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 18) This is a good day for communicating with others, whether for business or personal reasons.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) Friends are vital to you right now, so find a way to increase your income and set up a better budget. Enjoy your good friends tonight.

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### Morocco trumpets for World Cup finals

**CASABLANCA (R)** — Morocco, aspiring to be the first African nation to host the World Cup finals, has been beating its own drum loudly this week before top international soccer officials.

At the opening of the Africa Nations Cup finals, the continent's most prestigious tournament, the message was paraded around the stadium and emblazoned on the scoreboard, "Morocco — candidate for the 1994 World Cup."

The organizers have been treating this event both as an audition before FIFA, the game's world governing body, and as a dress rehearsal. Favourable comments from players, coaches, or officials have received acres of space in the country's press.

FIFA president Joao Havelange told a news conference FIFA's executive committee would decide the venue July 4 based on objective criteria.

"FIFA is very moved to see how football has developed in this region. Many European teams are taking players from Africa and that is an illustration of how the game here was

seen that he was a friend of Africa and Morocco." He was received by King Hassan — a keen soccer fan himself — at his winter palace in Marrakesh.

Havelange told a news conference

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